REMARKS

The title and drawings have been amended as required. Withdrawal of the related objections is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3-6 stand rejected under § 112. The rejected claims have been amended to provide antecedent basis as needed. In addition, claim 3 has been amended as follows:

"...a download unit which downloads the storage-type information from a storage-type information server through the network to ~~said~~ the stream ~~information distribution apparatus~~ server...," based on the description in page 57, lines 9-13 in the specification and the disclosure in Figs. 1 and 11.

Claim 5 has been amended as follows:

"...a download unit which downloads the storage-type information from either one of a storage-type information server and the stream server to ~~said~~ the receiver...," based on the description in page 29, line 21 to page 31, line 17 and page 57, lines 9-24 in the specification and the disclosure in Figs. 1, 6 and 11.

Claims 3, 5 and 6 have been amended as follows:

"a download unit ... in advance to distribution of the storage-type information," based on the description in page 34, lines 4-12 and page 37, lines 3-10 in the specification and the disclosure in Fig. 7.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 and 7-10 stand rejected under § 102 on the basis of Glaser et al. Applicants traverse this rejection because the reference merely discloses an audio-on-demand communication system using a conventional personal computer, and does not disclose (or suggest) the claimed information distribution control system, where, among other things, a receiver is controlled through a network such that information stream and storage-type information are reproduced in temporal synchronism of each other through network control.

Glaser discloses an audio-on-demand communication system using only the processing capabilities of the CPU within a conventional personal computer, as disclosed in Col. 1, line 59 - Col. 2, line 9. In Glaser, the audio-on-demand system (1000) includes the audio control center (120) which is specially adapted to include an audio data file (1005) and a metadata file (1010), as disclosed in Col. 23, lines 28-31. The audio data and the additional data is advantageously accompanied by time stamp information so that the additional data can be synchronously displayed with corresponding audio data, as disclosed in Col. 27, lines 55-58.

Further, in Glaser, synchronization of the audio data and the metadata is accompanied by time stamping the metadata to be activated at a corresponding time in the audio data transmission, and software running within the CPU (310) correlates the time

stamped metadata with the audio data being played back without requiring ancillary coprocessors, as disclosed in Col. 23, line 65 - Col. 24, line 4. The switch (1030) alternately provides audio data and metadata over the line (130) so that the audio blocks are interleaved with the metadata blocks in a ratio of two audio blocks for each metadata block, and the subscriber PC (110) receives the transmitted audio data and metadata and selectively stores the audio data within the audio data buffers (3159) and the metadata within the metadata buffers (1070), as disclosed in Col. 24, lines 13-23. The subscriber PC (110) connects to an audio control center (120) over telephone lines (130) via a modem (140), as disclosed in Col. 5, lines 3-5. As described above, Glaser relates to a system for receiving data or information.

On the contrary, the present invention relates generally to an information distribution control system. The information distribution control system in the present invention comprises a stream server that is connected to a network and includes a stream information distribution apparatus for distributing stream information capable of being reproduced in real time, by way of a first network control unit to a receiver through the network, and a first time-information addition control unit which adds a first time information to the stream information, a storage-type information server that is connected to the network for distributing storage-type information to the receiver through the network, and a second time-information addition control unit which adds second time information to the storage-type information. A synchronous reproduction control unit is connected to the

network by way of a second network control unit and controls the receiver through the network in such a manner as to reproduce the stream information and the storage-type information in temporal synchronism with each other based on the first time information and the second time information.

Glaser does not disclose an information distribution control system where the stream information distribution apparatus, the storage-type information server, and the synchronous reproduction control unit are connected to the network respectively. Moreover, and relevant to all of these rejected claims, a synchronous reproduction control unit does not control the receiver through the network in such a manner as to reproduce the stream information and the storage-type information in temporal synchronism with each other. Therefore, the present invention is not disclosed in Glaser. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 6 stands rejected under § 103 on the basis of Glaser. Applicants traverse for the following reasons.

The Examiner admits that Glaser fails to disclose downloading a storage-type information held in a stream information distribution apparatus to a storage-type information distribution apparatus in advance. The Examiner says that it would have been obvious for a person skilled in the art to modify Glaser by including a storage-type information distribution apparatus, and downloading a storage-type information held in a stream information

distribution apparatus to a storage-type information distribution apparatus.

However, Glaser merely discloses a system for receiving data or information. Glaser does not disclose distributing information through a network from the system. Even if the audio control center (120) is compared with the stream information distribution apparatus, it would not have been obvious to a person skilled in the art to modify Glaser by including a storage-type information distribution apparatus, and downloading a storage-type information to the storage-type information distribution apparatus, because the idea of distributing information held in the stream information distribution apparatus to a plurality of information distribution apparatuses at the same time, in a multicast scheme, is not disclosed in Glaser. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is also respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The examiner should call applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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